

**From:** Jack Noel  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/22/02 8:24pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

As a user of a competitor's platform, operating system and Netscape browsers, I'd like to thank the Court for the work that has been done to arrive at a Final Judgment in the Microsoft case. I endorse and applaud the settlement.

But, as a citizen of Michigan, (one of the plaintiff states), I am concerned that remedies do not go far enough. Michigan has launched an initiative to promote computer-based education and my investigation shows that past invasive practices of Microsoft have subverted this. Also, as a low-income user of a non-Microsoft platform/OS, I find that I'm significantly impaired and partially barred from enrolling and participating in Michigan's online education program (Michigan Virtual University). I can enroll, I can do course work, but the instructors have no way of monitoring portions of my course work.

So it appears to me that prior monopolistic practices of Microsoft have unduly influenced those who planned and created "MVU." The software developed for this educational "institution" is designed with the assumption that all students and teachers will be using a PC with Windows OS installed. This has damaged me, in the sense that I'm hampered in taking online courses here, should I want to do so.

When I inquired about this with MVU, I was told that Apple Computer had been unable to come up with software that would make their computers and OS fully inter operable with MVU's system. While this situation may indeed be resolved by Apple Engineering, it will take time and no one can say how long, it will take. Still unanswered is the question of why those responsible acted on the assumption that we are in an "all Microsoft / PC World."

I can only add that Microsoft's recent self-serving effort to "make good" with state educational systems by providing another flood of inferior software / hardware was another concern. But I see the states, in their wisdom, rejected this offer.

So, my opinion is in favor of imposing the Final Judgment as described in documents posted on the Justice Dept. website.

Thank you,  
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